

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Adam Ellsworth on 22 June 2009.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification, beginning on page 5, just under the heading "Measures to Solve the Problems" to page 16, just prior to "Brief Description of the Drawings," please amend the specification as follows:

According to the present invention (~~Claim 1~~), there is provided a television receiver for inputting an encrypted digital video signal into a decoding circuit that is provided inside a casing surrounded by a casing cover and a casing body, and visualizing a digital or analog video signal that is decrypted in the decoding circuit, in a video display unit positioned inside the casing, and the television receiver comprises a cover opening/closing detector for detecting opening/closing of the casing cover, and a switch for controlling a power supply voltage that is applied to the decoding circuit, in accordance with an output of the cover opening/closing detector, wherein power is supplied to the decoding circuit through the switch when the output of the cover opening/closing detector indicates that the casing cover is closed, and the supply of power to the decoding circuit is cut off by the switch when the output of the cover opening/closing detector indicates that the casing cover is opened.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 2~~), there is provided a television receiver for inputting an encrypted digital video signal into a decoding circuit that is provided inside a casing surrounded by a casing cover and a casing body, and visualizing a digital or analog video signal that is decrypted by the decoding circuit, in a video display unit positioned inside the casing, and the television receiver comprises a cover opening/closing detector for detecting opening/closing of the casing cover, an input means provided outside the casing body, and a decoding control circuit for controlling decoding parameters of the decoding circuit in accordance with the output of the cover opening/closing detector and the input from the input means, wherein the decoding control circuit outputs a parameter for performing the decoding operation to the decoding circuit when the output of the cover opening/closing detector indicates that the casing cover is closed and when there is a predetermined input from the input means, and the decoding control circuit outputs a parameter for stopping the decoding operation to the decoding circuit when there is no

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predetermined input from the input means and the output of the cover opening/closing detector indicates that the casing cover is opened.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 3~~), in the television receiver defined in ~~Claim 1 or 2~~, the cover opening/closing detector comprises a code sequence generation circuit, a light emitter for converting an electric signal from the code sequence generation circuit into light, a light receiver for converting a light signal into an electric signal, a light guide for guiding the light outputted from the light emitter to the light receiver, when the casing cover is closed, a demodulation circuit for demodulating the electric signal from the light receiver, and a comparison circuit for comparing the output of the code sequence generation circuit with the output of the demodulation circuit, and outputting a signal indicating that the casing cover is closed, when these outputs are equal to each other.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 4~~), in the television receiver defined in ~~Claim 1 or 2~~, the cover opening/closing detector comprises a condenser means, a charging means for charging the condenser means, a discharging means for discharging the condenser means when the casing cover is opened, and an opening detection means for recognizing that the condenser means is discharged, thereby detecting that the casing cover is opened.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 5~~), there is provided an electronic device apparatus having an electronic device that is provided inside a casing surrounded by a casing cover and a casing body, and the apparatus comprises a condenser means, a charging means for charging the condenser means, a discharging means for discharging the condenser means when the casing cover is opened, an opening detection means for recognizing that the condenser means is discharged, thereby detecting that the casing cover is opened, and a number-of-discharging storage means for storing the number of times the condenser means is discharged.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 6~~), the electronic device apparatus defined in ~~Claim 5~~ further includes an operation restriction means for restricting the operation of the electronic device apparatus when the number of discharging that is stored in the number-of-discharging storage means reaches a predetermined number of times.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 7~~), the electronic device apparatus defined in ~~Claim 5~~ further includes a display means for performing display using a display unit that is provided inside or outside the casing, and a control means for controlling the display means so that the display means performs display that is different from normal display, when the number of discharging stored in the number-of-discharging storage means reaches a predetermined number of times.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 8~~), there is provided an electronic device apparatus including an exchangeable electronic device having its own ID, inside a casing surrounded by a casing cover and a casing body, and the apparatus comprises a condenser means, a charging means for charging the condenser means, a discharging means for discharging the condenser means when the casing cover is opened, an opening detection means for

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recognizing that the condenser means is discharged, thereby detecting that the casing cover is opened, and an ID comparison means for comparing, when it is recognized that the casing cover is opened and closed, the IDs of the electronic device before and after the opening and closing of the casing cover.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 9~~), the electronic device apparatus defined in ~~Claim 8~~ further includes an operation restriction means for restricting the operation of the electronic device apparatus, when the ID of the electronic device after the opening and closing of the casing cover is identical to or older than the ID of the electronic device before the opening and closing of the casing cover.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 10~~), the electronic device defined in ~~Claim 8~~ further includes a display means for performing display using a display unit that is provided inside or outside the casing, and a control means for controlling the display means so that the display means performs display that is different from normal display, when the ID of the electronic device after the opening and closing of the casing cover is identical to or older than the ID of the electronic device before the opening and closing of the casing cover.

EFFECTS OF THE INVENTION

According to the present invention (~~Claim 1~~), there is provided a television receiver for inputting an encrypted digital video signal into a decoding circuit that is provided inside a casing surrounded by a casing cover and a casing body, and visualizing a digital or analog video signal that is decrypted in the decoding circuit, in a video display unit positioned inside the casing, and the television receiver comprises a cover opening/closing detector for detecting opening/closing of the casing cover, and a switch for controlling a power supply voltage that is applied to the decoding circuit, in accordance with an output of the cover opening/closing detector, wherein power is supplied to the decoding circuit through the switch when the output of the cover opening/closing detector indicates that the casing cover is closed, and the supply of power to the decoding circuit is cut off by the switch when the output of the cover opening/closing detector indicates that the casing cover is opened. Therefore, even when someone opens the casing cover and tries to take out the video signal decrypted by the decoding circuit, since the output of the decoding circuit is in its halting state when the casing cover is opened, illegal copying can be prevented from occurring.

Further, according to the present invention (~~Claim 2~~), there is provided a television receiver for inputting an encrypted digital video signal into a decoding circuit that is provided inside a casing surrounded by a casing cover and a casing body, and visualizing a digital or analog video signal that is decrypted by the decoding circuit, in a video display unit positioned inside the casing, and the television receiver comprises a cover opening/closing detector for detecting opening/closing of the casing cover, an input means provided outside the casing body, and a decoding control circuit for controlling decoding parameters of the decoding circuit in accordance with the output of the cover opening/closing detector and the input from the input means, wherein the decoding control circuit outputs a parameter for performing the decoding

operation to the decoding circuit when the output of the cover opening/closing detector indicates that the casing cover is closed and when there is a predetermined input from the input means, and the decoding control circuit outputs a parameter for stopping the decoding operation to the decoding circuit when there is no predetermined input from the input means and the output of the cover opening/closing detector indicates that the casing cover is opened. Therefore, the output of the decoding circuit is halted when the casing cover is opened, whereby illegal copying can be prevented from occurring. Further, when a maintainer of the television receiver inputs, through the input means, a command for compulsorily outputting decoding parameters to the decoding control circuit, the decoding circuit can be operated even in the state where the casing cover is open, thereby keeping the maintainability.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 3~~), in the television receiver defined in Claim 1 or 2, the cover opening/closing detector comprises a code sequence generation circuit, a light emitter for converting an electric signal from the code sequence generation circuit into light, a light receiver for converting a light signal into an electric signal, a light guide for guiding the light outputted from the light emitter to the light receiver, when the casing cover is closed, a demodulation circuit for demodulating the electric signal from the light receiver, and a comparison circuit for comparing the output of the code sequence generation circuit with the output of the demodulation circuit, and outputting a signal indicating that the casing cover is closed, when these outputs are equal to each other. Therefore, the output of the decoding circuit is halted when the casing cover is opened, whereby illegal copying can be prevented from occurring. Further, since, in order to make a state where the casing cover is virtually closed although it is actually open, it is necessary to generate a code sequence identical to the code sequence generated by the code sequence generation circuit outside the television receiver and input it to the light receiver, it is not easy to make the state where the casing cover is virtually closed, whereby illegal use of the device can be suppressed.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 4~~), in the television receiver defined in Claim 1 or 2, the cover opening/closing detector comprises a condenser means, a charging means for charging the condenser means, a discharging means for discharging the condenser means when the casing cover is opened, and an opening detection means for recognizing that the condenser means is discharged, thereby detecting that the casing cover is opened. Therefore, the output of the decoding circuit is halted when the casing cover is opened, whereby illegal copying can be prevented from occurring, and furthermore, it is possible to detect that the casing cover is opened when the device is in its power-off state, thereby suppressing illegal use of the device.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 5~~), there is provided an electronic device apparatus having an electronic device that is provided inside a casing surrounded by a casing cover and a casing body, and the apparatus comprises a condenser means, a charging means for charging the condenser means, a discharging means for discharging the condenser means when the casing cover is opened, an opening detection means for recognizing that the condenser means is discharged, thereby detecting that the casing cover is opened, and a number-of-discharging storage means for storing the number of times the condenser means is discharged. Therefore, it is possible to detect not only that the casing cover is opened when the device is in its power-on

state but also that the casing cover is opened when the device is in its power-off state, whereby illegal use of the device can be suppressed.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 6~~), the electronic device apparatus defined in ~~Claim 5~~ further includes an operation restriction means for restricting the operation of the electronic device apparatus when the number of discharging that is stored in the number-of-discharging storage means reaches a predetermined number of times. Therefore, it is possible to detect not only that the casing cover is opened when the device is in its power-on state but also that the casing cover is opened when the device is in its power-off state, whereby illegal use of the device can be suppressed.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 7~~), the electronic device apparatus defined in ~~Claim 5~~ further includes a display means for performing display using a display unit that is provided inside or outside the casing, and a control means for controlling the display means so that the display means performs display that is different from normal display, when the number of discharging stored in the number-of-discharging storage means reaches a predetermined number of times. Therefore, it is possible to detect not only that the casing cover is opened when the device is in its power-on state but also that the casing cover is opened when the device is in its power-off state, whereby illegal use of the device can be suppressed.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 8~~), there is provided an electronic device apparatus including an exchangeable electronic device having its own ID, inside a casing surrounded by a casing cover and a casing body, and the apparatus comprises a condenser means, a charging means for charging the condenser means, a discharging means for discharging the condenser means when the casing cover is opened, an opening detection means for recognizing that the condenser means is discharged, thereby detecting that the casing cover is opened, and an ID comparison means for comparing, when it is recognized that the casing cover is opened and closed, the IDs of the electronic device before and after the opening and closing of the casing cover. Therefore, it is possible to detect illegal opening/closing of the casing cover while allowing the user to open the cover of the electronic equipment and exchange the device in the equipment, whereby illegal use of the equipment can be suppressed.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 9~~), the electronic device apparatus defined in ~~Claim 8~~ further includes an operation restriction means for restricting the operation of the electronic device apparatus, when the ID of the electronic device after the opening and closing of the casing cover is identical to or older than the ID of the electronic device before the opening and closing of the casing cover. Therefore, it is possible to detect illegal opening/closing of the casing cover while allowing the user to open the cover of the electronic equipment and exchange the device in the equipment, whereby illegal use of the equipment can be suppressed.

According to the present invention (~~Claim 10~~), the electronic device defined in ~~Claim 8~~ further includes a display means for performing display using a display unit that is provided inside or outside the casing, and a control means for controlling the display means so that the display means performs display that is different from normal display, when the ID of the

electronic device after the opening and closing of the casing cover is identical to or older than the ID of the electronic device before the opening and closing of the casing cover. Therefore, it is possible to detect illegal opening/closing of the casing cover while allowing the user to open the cover of the electronic equipment and exchange the device in the equipment, whereby illegal use of the equipment can be suppressed.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christian LaForgia whose telephone number is (571)272-3792.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday 7-5.

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edan Orgad can be reached on (571) 272-7884. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Christian LaForgia/
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